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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: U-2 Peripheral Reconnaissance of China
and North Korea

1. This memorandum contains information for the Director of Central Intelligence.

2. Project IDEALIST presently has a spotting camera capable of obtaining reconnaissance photographs with the U-2 of targets up to eighty miles either side of the flight line.

3. This camera permits high resolution photography of highly defended targets without overflight. It also permits photography of targets in denied coastal areas and border zones.

4. In addition to making available to us previously denied targets because of heavy missile defenses, we intend to utilize this camera on targets along the Chinese coast. American pilots presently [redacted] will be used on these missions since no overflight of denied territory is required. The routes planned do not conflict with present USAF peripheral photo routes [redacted] but, in fact, complement the coverage presently provided.

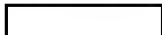
5. Coverage of the China coastline will provide accurate and current information on the Chicom AOB and SAMOB that will assist in the planning of safer TACKLE U-2 overflight missions. In addition, Chicom naval posture and deployment will be under constant surveillance.

6. Optimum utilization of favorable weather is also provided. The missions will be American flown and American controlled thus permitting quick reaction to good weather periods [redacted] for U-2 flights.

7. There will be no degradation of TACKLE assets to fly the peripheral missions. These peripheral missions, launched and recovered [redacted] will be completely supported by the U-2 detachment at Edwards Air Force Base.

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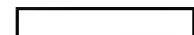
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8. Although these peripheral missions do not involve overflight of denied territory, they are a unique approach to Agency directed aerial reconnaissance. For that reason, the Office of Special Activities will prepare a Black Book on the first such mission for submission to the 303 Committee. After the first mission is flown, a monthly bank of missions will be prepared for subsequent 303 approval.

CARL E. DUCKETT
Acting Deputy Director
for
Science and Technology



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